

THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR,

ADDT ALTERAM PRTEMA.

OR REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES,
AND RAILWAY AND MINING INTELLIGENCE.

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LITERATURE.

EIGHT YEARS IN CANADA, &c.

EMBRACING A REVIEW OF THE SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS OF LORDS DURHAM AND SYDENHAM, SIR CHARLES BAGOT, AND LORD METCALFE;

And Dedicated to the Memories of
THE FIRST AND LAST OF THESE DISTINGUISHED DEAD.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "ECARTE," &c.

DE OMNIBUS REBUS ET QUIBUSDAM ALIIS.

A difficulty of arrangement having occurred with the only two London publishers to whom the following pages have been submitted, the Author has decided on reversing the usual practice, and publishing in Canada first; thus affording that means of direct communication with other metropolitan publishers, which his absence from London renders a matter of much inconvenience. It will be borne in mind, therefore, by the Canadian reader, that what is now offered to his perusal, was intended for an English public.]

Deposited at the Office of the Registrar of the Province.]

(CHAPTER IX. CONTINUED.)

while her claim to the pension of her husband's new rank was fully acknowledged. This was a trait of generosity and good feeling on the part of the Commander-in-Chief and his Military Secretary, which is not generally known, yet which I have great satisfaction of having an opportunity of here recording.

The disaster I experienced on leaving London had rendered me rather more circumspect about the harnessing of my horses, and I pursued my journey with all necessary precaution. But although my ponies had no further opportunity of running away, there was not yet an end to the *contretemps* I was doomed to endure. In the midst of a sea of mud through which they (the ponies) were endeavoring to force it, one of the springs of my waggon gave way, and, like a ship on her beam ends, the body of the vehicle fell on one side, and rubbed against the wheels. Here was misery in the fullest acceptation of the term, for the accident had occurred some distance from any habitation, and there was no "returning wave" to right the "hull" of the waggon. At length, as it began to grow dark, two men, who had been engaged cutting timber, emerged from the forest near us, and coming to our assistance, applied the never-failing remedy adopted in all emergencies of the kind, both in the United States and in Canada. They detached from an adjoining fence a strong rail, which they lashed "fore and aft" in such fashion upon the axle-trees, that it would have greatly puzzled a Long-Acre coach-builder to divine in what school they had acquired their ready art. This so strengthened the waggon, even while it robbed it of a portion of its elasticity, that I almost felicitated myself on the fracture.

Soon after extricating from this difficulty—that is to say, on the following day—I passed through what are called the "long woods," the road being the worst I had encountered during the whole of my journey upwards, and strongly reminding me of my trip from Utica to Syracuse, as described in an early chapter of this volume. Never had I experienced an impatience more complete than on this occasion, for as the wheels now became imbedded one after the other in stiff and clayey soil, I began to fear that my ponies, fatigued as they were, could never find the strength to extricate them. To add to the desolation and discomfort of my position, the road was straight as an arrow, and could be traced, both in front and rear, as far as the eye could reach; while a rank dense vegetation crept along the foot of the swampy and monotonous line of wood closely skirting what had been a high-way, and forcibly impressing me with the belief that its only tenants could be the most slimy of the creeping tribe.

I was now, I knew, not far from a scene which had been endeared to my young recollection, yet which since my boyhood I have never had an opportunity of approaching:—this was the spot on which the great Indian chief, Tecumseh, had fallen; and where I, with the greatest part of my regiment had, as I have before remarked, been captured by the Americans. The "forty mile woods," through which I had just passed, had been celebrated, at that pe-

riod, for the pursuit through it, by a party of mounted Kentuckians, of the General who commanded us, and who had basely deserted his men at the very commencement of the action. On emerging from this, I, for the first time, beheld the Indian village, situated in a small plain, whither it had been the original intention to move the army and our Indian allies—some three thousand warriors—in order that we might take up a position from which the enemy could not easily have dislodged us, protected as we would have been by the river (Thames) on the left flank, by a morass on the right, and by a ravine in front. But weightier considerations had prevented the carrying into effect of this excellent plan of arrangement, by which an entire division of the army might have been saved, and much injury and annoyance spared to the subjugated country. It had, unfortunately, happened that the waggons containing the General's kitchen utensils, and other "plunder," as a genuine Yankee would have termed it, had not been able to get beyond this point in the line of retreat, when the enemy were announced as coming rapidly up to us. Here was a perplexity, and what was to be done to extricate the endangered culinary and other domestic household goods? Pots and kettles and frying-pans were not to be found everywhere in these times of scarcity, and it was deemed advisable to cover their retreat at all hazards. The plan of defence was therefore changed. The *batterie de cuisine* was forthwith put in motion, while the troops received the order to halt where they were, and form two extended lines in a forest which rendered them a most easy prey to an enemy, while the latter moved among the trees and foliage almost unseen by their less practised adversaries. But although what men were not knocked on the heads were made prisoners in defending the approach to the General's main battery—the aforesaid *batterie de cuisine*—this latter did not the less fall into the hands of the triumphant enemy who, had the party pursuing succeeded in capturing their gallant proprietor, would, without a doubt, have cut him to pieces and boiled him in one of his largest saucepans.

As I passed from the plain into the wood where we had been attacked, I anxiously sought to discover any traces of the particular ground on which we had rested. For this purpose I alighted from my waggon, leaving the reins in the hands of my tiger; but in vain did I seek any indication of the precise spot. The general features of the wood bore so monotonous a resemblance that I was completely at fault, and after a fruitless attempt to discover the grave which was said to contain the bones of the well-known but unfortunate Tecumseh, I moved along the road which I had last traversed as a prisoner of war, in the hands of an exasperated and insulting enemy, with feelings deeply imbued with painful recollections of the occurrences of that eventful day. There was no one who could point out to me the grave of the indomitable warrior who had sealed his faith to England, and his unbending determination to avenge the great and manifold wrongs of his oppressed race, with his heart's blood, and I felt deeply disappointed. I had known Tecumseh well. During my boyhood he had ever treated me as a young favorite, and I had experienced a good deal of pride in what I considered a very great condescension, for I had always entertained a deep and enthusiastic admiration of his generous, fearless, independent and warlike character. Not an hour before he fell, he had passed along our line in the elegant deer-skin frock, fringed, and ornamented with the stained quills of the porcupine, which he usually wore, and which, on this occasion, surmounted a shirt of snowy whiteness. In addition to this, he wore a plume of white ostrich feathers, and the whole style of his costume was such as to impart to his dark features an expression, and to his eagle eye a brilliancy, which the excitement of the occasion rendered even more remarkable, and which had been so forcibly impressed upon my memory, that whenever the image of the noble Indian has appeared to me, it has been as he then looked, when, for the last time, he cordially shook me by the hand.

Numerous Americans have ventured, in a spirit of political hostility, to deny that Colonel Johnson, who commanded the Kentucky riflemen on that day, was the slayer of Tecumseh. This, it seems to me, is unfair. I sincerely believe that the noble chieftain fell by the hand of that officer, for it was so stated and understood at the time, not only among the American officers who were present in the engagement, but by the British officers who fell into their hands,

* General Procter.

and surely if any merit can attach to the act, it is rather unjust to refuse to Col. Johnson what has been so generally admitted by so many participators in the action, when they who maintain the reverse position must be disqualified from pronouncing, from personal knowledge, any correct opinion on the matter. Soon after my arrival in this country I had occasion to address Colonel Johnson, then Vice President of the United States, on a particular offer made to the American Government, and in the course of a few private lines which accompanied the official letter, took the opportunity to allude to the circumstance of Tecumseh's death, which I stated I perceived, not without surprise, had been attributed to a different party.

Now it is evident that, had Colonel Johnson entertained any doubt whatever on the subject, or been in the habit of vaunting unnecessarily or unbecomingly of his immediate agency in the fall of Tecumseh, he would have been too glad to have availed himself of the testimony of one who had been opposed to him that day in the field. So far from this, however, he, with the modesty of truth, refrains from all allusion to the disputed circumstance, but taking my remarks as a matter of course, confines himself, as will be seen from the following letters (all I ever received from him), to the demi-official parts of my communication, addressed to him very soon after my arrival in Canada.

"SENATE CHAMBERS, 8th May, 1838.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have received your note and communication, which I will without delay place in the hands of the President (Mr. Van Buren), as you desire. If the matter should be referred to the Senate, as a branch of the Executive, it will always give me pleasure to promote your views, so far as may be consistent with my duty and benefit to my country.

"You had better correspond direct with the President on the subject, as he has the power.

"With great respect,

"R. M. JOHNSON.

"———, Niagara."

"UNITED STATES SENATE, 31st May, 1838.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have received your kind reply to my answer to your first. I performed the promise made, by enclosing your first letter and communication to the President of the United States, and I find that you have taken my advice, by writing direct to him, as he has the power of acting on your proposition; and I have no power unless transmitted to the Senate for action. I do not know any mode in which I can serve you more than I have. The subject of your letters, &c., is embraced in the power of the President and the Navy Department. The only way in which you could succeed in your wish is, to convince the President and the Navy Department that it would be their duty to make some arrangement or contract with you. It would be indelicate for me to interfere further than I have.

"Most sincerely yours,

"R. M. JOHNSON.

"———, Niagara."

About a mile beyond the scene of action, I came to a house which had ever been vividly impressed on my memory, by reason of a ludicrous circumstance which had occurred in it the day after our defeat and capture. When our baggage was overtaken and stopped by the enemy, our own women were the first to plunder it, so that the linen of the officers adorned some of these Amazons in much greater profusion than it did those of our tall Kentuckian captors. On the morning following the action, we were marched back to the house to which I have alluded—a sort of inn, which was kept by one Sherman—and were warming ourselves by a stove in the apartment into which we had been ushered, when some eight or ten of our soldiers' wives unceremoniously entered and threw themselves into chairs, while they unblushingly displayed some of the trophies they had obtained, coolly asking us at the same time if we would purchase them. Now, under ordinary circumstances, the appearance of these women among us would scarcely have been regarded as an intrusion; but as we were fully sensible, from their manner, that they were desirous of insulting us in our altered position as prisoners, the impertinence was not to be tolerated. One officer in particular remonstrated with them, and commanded that they should leave the room instantly, but this order, so far from being obeyed, called forth all the billingsgate powers of the ladies. They jumped up, snapped their fingers, put their hands on their hips, and favored the offender with such a volley of "slang" as had never before greeted his ears, politely intimating that they would be d—d if they left the room for "such as we were," who stood in the same position with themselves, being only prisoners and without any power to compel them. And thus they went on, until the uproar terminated, not in their expulsion, but in our withdrawal from the reach of the venom of their tongues. Often and often since had that scene occurred to me, and the very position of the house in which it had taken place was so forcibly impressed upon my recollection that I recognised it at a glance. As I looked up at the sign—which doubtless had continued to hang there since I last passed the spot—I beheld the same name—Sherman—half visible in the dimness of a paint that had perhaps been washed by a thousand rains, and every feature of the dwelling was precisely what my memory had retained.

Pursuing my route from Sherinan's, I soon came upon the banks of the pretty river of the Thames, which I had first seen at London, and had occasionally since crossed on my journey, but which I now followed for some distance until I reached Chatham, in the county of Kent. Finding, on my arrival here, that the navigation was entirely open; and not only my ponies but myself being in need of some repose, I embarked my waggon on the steamer Brothers, and quietly pursued my way down the river to the place of my destination, Windsor, about three miles from my residence. No part of the Canadian scenery is more lovely than what is presented, on leaving Chatham, by the windings of the narrow and picturesque Thames. For about twelve miles this river runs between not very elevated but sloping and verdant banks, until these latter suddenly recede, leaving nothing visible for several miles farther, and until the stream disembogues itself into the Lake St. Clair, but a forest of tall rushes, affording shelter and nutriment, at the proper season of the year—spring and autumn—to myriads of wild ducks of every description and quality, and from the largest to the smallest in size. For miles around, as you at length issue into the lake, the surface of the latter is seen darkened, at short intervals of space, with huge flocks of these migratory birds, which afford not only abundant occupation to the sportsman, but constitute an important article of food. At the point where the beautiful banks of the Thames terminate, there is an auberge, overhanging the river in such a way that the passenger may step from the deck of the steamer to the covered gallery of the house, which is kept by a French Canadian, who has two or three very pretty and well-mannered daughters; and therefore, it may be presumed, that the sportsman who feels inclined to devote a few days to the pursuit of his game, does not consider it to be any very severe penance that, after the fatigues of the day, he should enjoy the meal, and luxuriate in the bed, which has been prepared for him by those very charming girls. Very many parties de chasse resort, in turn, to this house, and the name of Dauphin is unknown to few, gentle or simple, in the district.

It was late in April when I landed at Windsor, having been altogether nearly two months, including my stoppages at Côteau-du-Lac, Cornwall, Brockville, Toronto, and London, on my route from Montreal, and during this period my ponies had brought me, a great part of the way through most execrable roads, a distance of upwards of five hundred miles. Indeed, after their rest on board the steamer, they seemed as fresh and as eager as ever, and although they had but three miles further to go, they would I am sure have accomplished another five hundred in much less time than had been squandered on the recent journey. But they were never doomed to undergo this trial. I had written to have their stable well supplied with wherewithal to indulge themselves at the end of their toil; and here, after having made acquaintance with a very splendid Newfoundland dog whom I had left behind as a guard to his mistress, and who on recognizing me and observing this addition to the domestic establishment had manifested unbounded delight, they were for a season left to their straw beds and well-earned repose.

CHAPTER X.

My return to Sandwich by no means implied a termination of my wanderings. The lease of my "den," with the hangman's projection to it, which I had taken for only twelve months, was to expire in a few weeks, and I should then be at liberty to retrace a great portion of my journey, and enter upon the occupation of "Rock Cottage," my new purchase at Brockville. The first consideration was the disposal of my furniture, and this was effected in a manner to impress me somewhat forcibly with the very wide difference which exists between the two simple acts of buying and selling. Owing to the utter impossibility of procuring the most common articles of household furniture on the Canadian shore, I had been under the necessity of supplying myself at Detroit, and at prices which were far from low. The whole was sold for about one fourth of what I had paid for it, and thus was my first initiation into the economy of housekeeping effected. True, these being the good old times when Responsible Government had not started up like a bugbear to frighten the Collectors of Customs in Canada into vigilance and attention to their duties, I had managed to cross much of my furniture without being subjected to the very disagreeable process of being interrogated as to whence it came, and consequently had been spared some additional charges. But this advantage had been rather the fruit of dexterity and address on the part of the bold French Canadian whom I employed, and who was quite a character in his way, than a necessary consequence of being drawn to the American shore for what could not be procured on our own. Had I paid duty on all that I purchased, the fourth which I obtained on a subsequent sale, would have dwindled down to a mere shadow indeed.

Before leaving the Western District of Canada, which had served to revive so many of my earlier recollections, I accepted the invitation of a gentleman in Detroit to pass a few weeks with him, prior to attending a "monster" meeting which was to be

hold for the express purpose of manifesting the popular feeling in favor of General Harrison, then a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. Delegates from every state in the Union were to assemble on a ground which had been the theatre of the display of some resolution, less active than passive, on the part of "Hard Cider," as the Americans familiarly termed him, and which was not without interest to me, as having been one of those against whom he had defended himself. A very numerous body of people (Whigs) marshalled for the occasion in Detroit, and one fine yet sultry morning, under a salute of artillery, amid the waving of the handkerchiefs of the agreeable and lady-like women for whom the capital of Michigan is celebrated, and who now lined the balconies and windows overlooking the river, the steamers, five in number and literally crowded with people, unmoored from their respective wharves and glided down the river. The sky was clear and bright, although the atmosphere was insufferably warm, and as the prow of each boat, which was decked with gay flags and alive with music, rippled through the still and waveless current, it seemed as though its course were propelled through the yielding, but hitherto unbroken, surface of a mirror. Crowds of spectators collected on the populous and verdant shores, evidently wondering at the cause of the unusual display, which, albeit known to a few, was a mystery to the mass; and as we moved, in succession, past the British fort at Amherstburgh, the bright scarlet uniforms of the guard, who, in the midst of their less gaudily attired comrades off duty, lingered near the gateway, or thronged the ramparts, strongly brought to my memory the contrast of a past position with the present, and yielded abundant materials for reflections not of the most soothing or satisfactory nature. Then I had marched from the spot around which those soldiers lingered, and glided down the river on which I now found myself, for the express purpose of investing and destroying the very place to which I was now hastening as to a festival; nay more, with the object of capturing or slaying the very man whom it was intended that festival should honor. I had endured hunger, and thirst, and privation of every kind, during that close siege, and had deeply rejoiced whenever a bursting shell falling into the works threatened to spread havoc and destruction among those they sheltered, and to give promise of the extermination of their stronghold. Now I was about to visit the same spot, to be a spectator of the rejoicings at the imputed defeat of all our plans, and of the bestowal by assembled thousands of homage upon him who claimed a victory over us, and again whose claim there was no one present but myself who could, even if imprudent enough to do so, demur. The position was a curious one, and yet as we advanced there was even more cause afforded for contrast and reflection. At length, we entered the Miami River, but how different was the appearance of the country, and how dissimilar the mode of ascent, to what it had been at the period when I last visited the scene. It had been my fortune to be upon this river on three several occasions, during the last war between Great Britain and the United States, and at a time when one unvarying wilderness presented itself on either shore to the eye, as far as the commencement of the beautifully green and sloping bank which, for about twenty yards, formed the boundary between the forest and the river. We had, on the first occasion, penetrated almost to its source, and far beyond the point to which curious thousands were now repairing to celebrate what was intended to be a national jubilee; and during that expedition—some seventy or eighty miles into the interior—we had seen but one solitary cabin, which, in apprehension of the outrages of our Indian allies, had been deserted by its inhabitants,—and the ruins of an old English fort, one of those alluded to in my "Waconsta" as having fallen into the hands of the same race of people, then our fierce and uncompromising enemies, and united in exterminating confederacy under the renowned chieftain Pontiac. We had, it is true, then penetrated far beyond this ruin, but not an evidence of civilization had met our view.

On the second occasion, when our light-hearted and joyous soldiery, who ever found, in expeditions of the kind, indulgence for that wholesome spirit of adventure which is peculiar to the profession of arms, pulled, with cheerful song and jest, the bateaux in which we were embarked, it was for a more hostile and decided purpose than that which we previously entertained. As we rowed up the river, the country was, for a series of miles, precisely as we had found it on our first approach, the wild turkey occasionally winging its lazy flight from shore to shore, and presenting a tempting and seldom neglected mark to the rifles of the Indians who flanked our advance on either bank, and to the less effective musket of the soldier, fired by some eager and imprudent officer; but when we had traced about one third of our former route, and approached the point where had stood the deserted cabin to which I have alluded, we discovered that around that, and extending over ground where, on the first occasion, we had amused ourselves with shooting down the hogs, which, intended by their owner, had become absolutely wild, had now risen, in imposing strength, fortifications, against which our present efforts were to be directed. This fort was commanded by General Harrison, the very man whom a strong political party were now

assembling to honor in the immediate theatre of his assumed military achievements, and in order that the reader may fully understand the value of these, I will briefly refer to the circumstances as they took place.

On taking up our position about a mile below the fort, which was reconnoitred and found impracticable except by breach, the necessary batteries were immediately thrown up opposite to the American defences (the river or "foot of the rapids" separating the armies,) at a distance of about eight hundred yards, and in a few days, protected by strong covering parties, these were in readiness to receive the battering guns which had accompanied the expedition. Two of these were long twenty-four pounders which we had previously taken at Detroit, and well do I recollect the immense exertion it cost us to drag them from the point where they had been landed, to the batteries. The distance was a mile, and the roads so bad that it required many yoke of oxen and nearly two hundred men, (the latter furnished with drag ropes,) from nine o'clock in the evening until three in the morning, to effect this important duty, which, at one time, had nearly been abandoned in very hopelessness of success. A principal object was to get the guns into battery before the Americans could be aware of their advance, for the range was so short that they could not fail, in day-light, to have caused us serious molestation. This, after extraordinary effort, was accomplished, and at a given signal from a gunboat anchored abreast of the encampment, and the hoisting of the union jack at the batteries themselves, a furious cannonade was opened upon the enemy, who returned it with spirit, but not with the same efficiency. Well did these beautiful twenty-four pounders throw their metal. They were, in comparison of one arm with the other, as true as rifles, and at whatever point the gun was directed, there the shot was sure to fall. I had more than once, while forming one of the covering party, prevailed on the bombardier who had charge of these pieces to allow me to point them, and I remember feeling all the delight which is natural to a young soldier on occasions of the kind, and during his earlier days of service, wherever I perceived the destruction I had been instrumental in effecting. There was one point at which the twenty-four pounders were principally aimed, and this was the roof of the powder magazine which the enemy were busily engaged in endeavoring to render bomb-proof. Most gallantly did they acquit themselves of this dangerous duty, for although our heavy and hissing shot struck the roof at every discharge, tearing up the new laid earth, and occasionally mixing it with the blood and limbs of those who were employed in placing it there, no sooner were they extricated from the shower of wet earth which, scattered high in air, fell enveloping their persons as in a dark cloud, than they recommenced their task with an undiminished ardor that astonished us, nor ceased until they had accomplished their object. The magazine was, in spite of our incessant fire, rendered bomb-proof; and then, and not until then, did the workmen retire from their exposed position. For four consecutive days we continued, with little intermission, to bombard the place, throwing into it shells, and red hot, as well as the ordinary round, shot; and such was the number of these that we could not possibly conceive how the enemy was enabled to hold out as he did. But the resources of these brave men were in proportion with the magnitude of their danger. With the same indefatigability and resolution they had manifested while covering their powder magazine, they prevented that destruction in their force, which must else have resulted from our fire, by excavating obliquely in the earth, and forming burrows in which the Indians used to say they buried themselves like "ground hogs,"—thus finding shelter from our shells. The state of the earth itself had greatly contributed to their exemption from serious loss, for in consequence of the heavy rains which had fallen since our arrival in the neighborhood, the clayey soil of the newly dug fort had become so saturated, that the area was one continuous paste reaching to the ankles, and as the shells dropped in this, the fuzes were generally instantly extinguished, while the hot shot fell equally without effect.

Thus stood matters in relation to the siege itself, when, on the fifth day from the opening of our fire, the affair occurred which gave to General Harrison, according to American history, a victory some sixty thousand persons, from most parts of the Union, were now about to celebrate in presence of the assumed victor, and on the very theatre of contest.

General Harrison being uncertain as to the ultimate results of the siege, and moreover extremely annoyed by our guns, resolved upon an attempt to silence these latter; and with that view despatched a messenger to General Green Clay who, he had been apprized, was a few miles up the river, advancing to the relief of the garrison with a force of fifteen hundred men, and some ammunition and stores. The orders now sent to him were to move forward without delay; land within a short distance of the British batteries; carry and spike the guns—destroying the carriages, and instantly recross the river, and join him in the fort.

It should have been previously mentioned that, prior to the opening of the guns from our batteries opposite to Fort Meigs, two

companies (the grenadier and light) of the only regular regiment employed in the expedition, had been detached, with two guns of light calibre, to the right bank of the river with instructions to take possession of, and entrench themselves in, a ravine, about half way from our encampment and the American fort, and thus distract them by a cross fire. This party, supported by a few militia and Indians, it was the intention of General Harrison, as intimated to General Clay, to attack, while the latter executed the important duty assigned to him, on the opposite shore. Now this plan was, beyond all question, an admirable one, and as far as General Harrison was concerned, reflected great credit upon his military judgment; but it will be presently seen with whom the merit of victory, in reality, rested. No sooner was the American commander made aware, by the report of the first desultory firing, of General Clay's approach to the batteries, when he directed a sortie upon the light battery thrown up on the brow of the ravine which sheltered the little detachment, on his own side of the river. This was instantly carried, five and thirty men and two officers—all of the light company—falling into his hands; and the remainder of the party being hotly pursued, and crossing, not without difficulty, in the boats which were ready to receive them. On the right bank of the river, therefore, everything was decidedly in favor of the besieged. But how stood matters of the opposite shore? General Clay had surprised the batteries so completely, that the first intimation in our camp of the proximity of the enemy was given to us by the artillerymen, who had naturally abandoned their guns at the approach of a force against which resistance was utterly hopeless. General Clay had, in my opinion, badly chosen his moment of attack. I could have wished him to have deferred his movement at least an hour. We had only just seated ourselves in our tent of boughs to partake of a very scanty breakfast, and this, consisting of a tough steak of lean and half cooked beef, and a piece of dry bread, moistened with an apology for tea made of the root of the sassafras, and sweetened with sugar from the maple tree, it was hardly fair to compel us to abandon untasted. I had ever been of the opinion of much older soldiers than myself, that in order to do duty properly in the field, it was indispensable that the cravings of the animal man should not be suffered to interpose themselves between his sublimer aspirations after glory; and as mine was an appetite that was seldom gratified to its full extent, when sharing the bivouac of those who were older, and less diffident than myself, and who always assigned me any other than Benjamin's portion, I was scarcely ever exempt from the gnawings of hunger. I recollect well, that, during our forced march on this occasion to the batteries, I thought a great deal more of the untouched breakfast, and its probable fate, than of the enemy we were about to encounter. I was a confirmed *Oliver Twist* in those days, and "always asking for more."

But another direction was given to my reflections. As we advanced along the road I have already described, at a pace as rapid as its heavy nature would permit, and flanked on the forest side by a body of Indians, we could distinctly hear the firing going on on our left, and see the enemy advancing rapidly upon the small battery of six-pounders. Instead of discouraging, this however animated our own immediate leaders the more, and they urged their men to the re-capture of the heavy guns. In a few minutes we were on the spot, and saw the enemy in possession of and determined to retain them. We had not three complete companies on the ground, or engaged in the affair at all; and yet when the order was given to charge, we advanced and drove from the batteries the masses that occupied them, in a manner that, on subsequent reflection on the fewness of our numbers, astonished ourselves quite as much as it must have disconcerted the enemy. They retreated into the woods, and being there met by the destructive fire of the warriors under Tecumseh, were speedily broken, and, as a force, literally annihilated. Of thirteen hundred men whom General Clay had brought with him to the attack of the batteries, not two hundred effected their escape; and independently of the many who fell, we took no less than four hundred and fifty prisoners. The moment the firing had ceased, and these latter had been marched off under as strong an escort as could be spared, we again returned to the batteries, whither the artillerymen had again promptly repaired, and assisted them in undoing the injury which had been done to the guns. Owing to some confusion in the advance of the assailants, the man charged with the spikes could not be found, or had not come up; and, too impatient for delay, the Americans had only partially effected their purpose by thrusting ramrods into the touchholes and breaking them off short. These were now removed without much difficulty, and the fire of small arms had not been discontinued an hour when our batteries re-opened on the fort. Before half a dozen rounds had been discharged, however, the enemy hoisted a white flag, which we at the batteries supposed was a signal for a surrender. The firing consequently ceased, and it was not until we saw a few boats of General Clay's division (the greater number had been captured and plundered by the Indians) moving down the river, and anchoring as close beneath the fort as they could, that we suspected a ruse, and renewed our fire. But this again was instantly stayed, as we saw a party issue from the fort dressed in scarlet, and evidently prisoners who had been cap-

tured that morning on the right bank. The movement of these under an escort toward the river, where we saw them embark, announced to us at the batteries that the white flag had been hoisted only with a view to an exchange of prisoners; and our disappointment became extreme as we perceived another important movement on the part of the enemy, which the momentary truce was intended to cover. No sooner had we for the second time ceased our firing, when, availing themselves of the exchange of prisoners which was being then effected, several hundred unarmed men issued from an angle of the fort, under the cover of a detachment, and rushing hurriedly to the boats, loaded themselves with what they could bear away. This was principally shot and shells and stores of various kinds, for the supply of the garrison, which the Indians had neglected to destroy; contenting themselves with the handsomely ornamented swords, rifles, and pistols, as well as the linen and rich epaulettes and uniforms of the officers, with which many of the warriors afterwards decked themselves, not a little to the amusement of the camp. Nor was it until *after* the prisoners had been landed, and the supplies introduced into the fort, that we were again at liberty to open our fire.

I have been diffuse in the historical detail of these proceedings, because I am aware that the Americans are generally impressed with the belief that the affair of the Miami was, to General Harrison, one of unqualified victory; and as this book will, of course, be republished in the United States, I am desirous of correcting the error into which they have fallen. Of General Harrison's merit as an officer, and of his very able dispositions on that day, there can be no question, but victory is not always to those leaders whose combinations and enterprise are best calculated to ensure it. Had General Clay obeyed the order so emphatically given to him, and, after spiking the guns, retired across the river without further loss of time, there would have been every fair claim to complete victory; but surely it will not be pretended that the capture of a weak battery, supported merely by two companies of troops, with a few militia and Indians, can as a military feat, be placed in comparison with the utter destruction of a force of thirteen hundred men by one-third of their number. Then let us look at the results. The Americans issuing in force from the fort, succeeded in capturing thirty-five men and two officers, while four hundred and thirty-five men and thirty-two officers fell into our hands. Nor can it be said that General Harrison's success on the right bank of the river has nothing to do with, or can be affected by the defeat of General Clay on the left, which was only the result of unlooked-for disobedience of orders. As well might it be said, if we compare small things with great, that Napoleon's was not a defeat at Waterloo, because Grouchy is stated to have disobeyed his instructions, and by his absence, mainly contributed to the loss of the battle. Had the Duke of Wellington, on the contrary, failed in any of his numerous engagements, solely through the fault of one of his commanders of divisions, victory would not the more have been ascribed to him, because his dispositions had been proved by results to have been good, and that the fullest success should have crowned those operations which he immediately superintended. It is true that the siege was subsequently abandoned, but this was because it was found impracticable to effect a breach for an assault. Had the enemy been surrounded by stone walls, they would have crumbled about their ears, but as it was, the shot merely passed through, without levelling or even seriously wounding the strong loop-holed pickets which formed the stockade, and the capture of the place could only have been effected by the expenditure upon it of more time and ammunition than the necessity for its reduction demanded. Furthermore the Indians, laden with the spoils they had secured from the captured boats of General Clay's division, were in conformity with their usual practice on such occasions, and in defiance of the noble yet severe Tecumseh (who, with a small band of chosen warriors—chiefly of his own tribe—remained with us to the close), deserting us hourly for a brief season; and without their united support, the force was much too weak to effect any important object. But although we retired, it was without the slightest show of precipitation. The batteries were regularly dismantled, and the heavy guns removed and placed on board the boats prepared for their reception, precisely in the order in which they had first been landed from them, nor was anything left behind which could at all advantage the enemy. Neither, when the battering train, stores, camp equipage, &c., had been all re-embarked, and the troops followed in their open boats, was the slightest obstruction offered by the Americans during any part of our descent of the river. No attempt was ever made at a sortie, which, in our exposed position, must have greatly annoyed us.

I should be induced to apprehend that I had dwelt too long on so apparently unimportant a subject, were it not that I am desirous to shew with how little foundation the Americans so frequently claim advantages over the troops of Great Britain. Where they are fairly entitled to victory, let their claim be allowed; but it is unjust to assume that to themselves which is not warranted by facts. While their whole Union has rung from one end to the other with rejoicings at the asserted triumph of their arms over those of Great Britain at the Miami, the gallant regiment—a small but daring portion of whom drove, at the point of the bayonet, a vastly superior number of the enemy from the batteries on the left bank—were

wearing, still wear, and ever will continue to wear, the word "Miami," on their colors and appointments.*

The third time we ascended the Miami, and some account of this is necessary to the understanding of certain American proceedings at this celebrated convention, was in the following August—little more than three months afterwards. Tecumseh had conceived a plan for the withdrawal of the Americans from the defence of the fort, which it was hoped would prove efficient, and in which he obtained a promise of co-operation on the part of the British General. We accordingly moved up the Miami river in our boats as before, and with the Indians skirting the woods on either flank. Instead, however, of occupying the ground we had previously rested on, we effected a landing on the right bank, and gaining the cover of the woods, remained for many hours stationary, and out of view from the fort. Meanwhile Tecumseh, who, at the head of his warriors, had, by a circuitous route, gained the high road by which the garrison received its supplies and reinforcements, opened a desultory fire, accompanied by fierce yells, apparently on a party coming towards the fort. This fire gradually increased until it eventually became an incessant roar of small arms; and now had arrived the critical moment—that of the success or failure of his plan. It was known that General Harrison had some days previously left the place, entrusting the command to the next in rank to him, and was then lying with a body of troops at a short distance from Sandusky (another stockaded post not far distant from, and connected with, Fort Meigs, by the road just alluded to), and it was expected that the garrison of the latter, inferring that the General had been attacked while coming to their assistance, would sally forth and cover their entry. We waited patiently, or rather impatiently, on the skirt of the wood, half-soaked through with a drizzling rain, and looking earnestly for evidences of a sortie on the road, when it was our intention to have taken the force composing this in the rear, but all in vain. The American commander was too prudent, and although we opened a fire in return to that of the Indians, with a view of further misleading the enemy, the attempt proved fruitless, and we re-embarked the same afternoon, and descended the river for our ultimate destination—which was Sandusky, the fort I have just mentioned, and on which our storming powers were again, although by no means successfully, tried.

Such had been the condition of this interesting tract of country on the three several occasions on which I had traversed its banks a quarter of a century before, and such as I have described had been the mode of navigation of its waters. But what a change had been effected within that comparatively short period. It seemed as if the wand of enchantment had passed over a region which I had in some degree enshrined in my recollection as hallowed ground, and I, at a first glance, contemplated with feelings of painful disappointment the abundant evidences of the destroying, yet renewing, hand of a matter-of-fact civilization, which had removed from view those land-marks of primeval beauty, once forming such prominent features in the attractive scenery. On we dashed with our steamers decorated with their gay flags, and enlivened with music; and as the ponderous paddle wheels threw the waters aside, starting them even from their own beds, I could not but draw a striking and unfavorable contrast between their turbulent intrusion and the subdued action of the light oar which, formerly, had almost insensibly, divided the placid water, and formed ripples so slight as to be discontinued almost at the moment of their creation, leaving scarce a trace behind of the burden they had so recently borne. The destructive effect produced on the natural beauty of the shores, by the fierce and unchecked paddle wheels—and this is an evil peculiar to every narrow river on which steam navigation prevails—was here disagreeably evident. The eternal lashing of the disturbed waters had worn away the verdure from the more abrupt banks, and the gray dry earth, divested of that clothing which had formerly constituted the leading charm of this ascent, fell and crumbled as each heavy swell dashed against and dislodged some portion of its body. After proceeding a few miles up the river we came to Toledo, a large and thriving town, furnished with piers, wharves, &c., and altogether exhibiting marks of a commercial prosperity which, notwithstanding my preconceived ideas of the go-a-head system of the West, excited my utmost admiration and surprise. While advancing towards the mouth of the Miami River, which we did shortly after we had sustained the loss of one of the "enlightened," who threw himself from the upper deck and found the death he sought before means could be found to lower a boat, we had seen numerous steamers, decked with gay flags similar to our own, and equally freighted with a mass of living matter, moving from various points, indicating the several harbors on Lake Erie, which they had left, and wending their way to the narrow entrance leading to the place of rendezvous. Some of these we now overtook at Toledo, where, in consequence of the shallow water above, it was necessary to leave several of the largest steamers (and amongst them was that in which I had embarked) and perform

the remainder of the route in others of a smaller class. It was with a deep interest—as boyish in character, perhaps, as it was irresistible—that, as we threaded the windings of the river, I watched every thing which could indicate our near approach to the spot most familiarly impressed upon my memory. At length, after making a sudden turn in the river, we came within view of the immediate scene of our own and the enemy's operations—the foot of the Miami rapids—but how unlike was it to the wild country I had once known. True, the water was the same, and the earth was the same; but on either bank had arisen, on the extinguished fires of men who had been arrayed in deadly hostility to each other, two large divisions of a flourishing town, connected by an elevated and extensive bridge, which bore the same evidence of commercial improvement that I had remarked at Toledo. The site of the town on the right bank was some few hundred yards on the side of the ravine, nearest the mouth of the river, which had sheltered our troops; and on the brow of which our enflading battery had been erected, and must have been about the point where, with the exception of the prisoners taken by General Harrison, the detachment had succeeded in gaining their boats and crossing the river. At the base of this, studded with piers and wharves, with their adjacent store houses, were moored the numerous steamers that had been enabled, from their lightness of draft, to get up with their living burdens; and these now lay, with their broadsides opposite to that part of the stream where had been anchored the gun boats employed in the expedition, and contributing by their fire to the annoyance of the enemy. Beyond this point, no boat of any tonnage could proceed, the shallowness of the river rendering it only navigable for batteaux.

It was night when we landed from the steamer, and as we were to pitch our tent on the very ground where had stood the fort—about a mile distant,—no time was lost in the necessary preparation. A bullock waggon was soon procured, and in this were deposited, not only our capacious tent and the good things that were to be enjoyed under it, but the bedding and portmanteaus of the party who, compelled to walk, flanked and brought up the rear of the "camp equipage." In about an hour, after passing through the town of the Miami, and winding our way among carts and waggons, laden like our own, and so alive with human beings that, in the gloom of the evening, a very little stretch of the imagination might have conjured up a repetition of the scenes of the past, we at length found ourselves within the circle in which had been comprised the defences of the fort. Here the waggon was unloaded, and the experienced servants of the gentleman whose immediate guest I was, and who, with several other of the principal citizens of Detroit, had "clubbed" to provide the indispensables of the expedition, soon had the tent raised and put in order. Finally, we were so comfortably disposed of that it was with no slight reluctance we quitted the cold fowl and ham, accompanied by Madeira, and followed by cold brandy and water and cigars which were set before us, as we squatted ourselves, after the fashion of the Indians, on the ground, for the comparatively comfortable beds which had, in the meantime, been prepared for us.

That night was to me one of an excitement—unworldly and ridiculous enough at my matured years—which I vainly strove to banish. Owing to the lateness of the hour at which we had entered on our place of bivouac, I had not been able to obtain any thing like a distinct view of our position, and I waited impatiently for the approach of day, when my curiosity should be fully gratified. It was not, however, until the sun had appeared above the horizon in the morning, and the bustling of my companions who were making their rude toilet, warned me of my tardiness, that I rose, half dressed myself, and sallied forth for the purpose of entering the shallow stream that flows lazily through the valley beneath. It was not, therefore, until after I had returned from my ablutions, and partaken of an excellent breakfast which had meanwhile been prepared for our hungry party, that I had an opportunity to examine the position. The scene at this time, when the whole of the surrounding encampment, containing some fifty thousand souls, had breakfasted, and were in motion in various parts of the ground, was highly animated. Bugles and drums and trumpets sounded from every quarter, summoning the several corps of "Guards" to their morning parade within a space formed by the peculiar disposition of their tents; while the numerous bands of music which had accompanied the delegates from their several States, rent the air, otherwise stilled by the influence of a burning sun, and were, in the occasional pauses, succeeded by a confused hum of human voices, which gave a just estimate of numbers to the ear, than was afforded even to the eye. The most of these bands were elevated in carriages, drawn by four, six, eight, twelve, and in one instance sixteen horses, two abreast,—these latter conducted with so much ability, that a single postilion, mounted on one of the centre horses to reach the leaders with his whip, was all the aid the driver required. Then there were displays of gorgeous flags, and shows, and refreshment tents, and, in short, of everything that is usually found in a fair, but the fair themselves, a very slight sprinkling of whom were discernible in the throng. These were confined almost exclusively to the belles of the Miami, who, although not quite so graceful or beautiful as many of those who had left in Detroit,

[TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

* There is a circumstance connected with this subject of so curious a coincidence, as to merit a passing notice. The storming of the batteries on the Miami took place on the 5th of May, 1813, when I served in the company of a gallant officer as ever entered a field. On the 6th of May, 1836, I assisted at the storming of the Carlist lines (three in number, and situated by batteries drawn around San Sebastian, and on this latter occasion one of my subalterns was a son of the very man under whom I had entered the enemy's batteries in 1813.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All parties subscribing to this paper may be supplied with the whole of the numbers from the commencement, including the Eight Years in Canada.

THE
WEEKLY EXPOSITOR

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 1846.

THE MINISTRY.

A recent number of the *Times* comes out with an article that is evidently intended to show that there are no less than six different parties in Canada, and that therefore it will be for the benefit of the country that those in power should remain where they are. This is not absolutely stated, but no one can misunderstand the inference it is obviously meant should be drawn. But we can assure the *Times* that, were there sixteen parties in the country instead of six, any attempt on the part of Lord Elgin to conduct a Government—that is to say, to command a majority in the House—with Mr. Draper in his councils, will prove abortive. The cloven foot has long since been revealed, notwithstanding all his political hypocrisy and cunning, and honest and conscientious men necessarily fear to founder, if continuing in the same bark which is weighed down by his corrupt weight. No public man was ever more universally execrated as a selfish, heartless, unscrupulous schemer, sacrificing everything to his self-love and to his pique; and although he may, with his usual plausibility and seeming indifference to office, for a brief season impose upon the new ruler of Canada, His Excellency will soon be made aware of the actual consideration he enjoys. We tell Lord Elgin, therefore, honestly yet firmly, that unless some such sort of Administration be formed as we adverted to in our last number, the same difficulties will surround him that have beset every Governor General of Canada.

In naming Mr. Lafontaine to the important office of Provincial Secretary, we believe we are borne out by the wishes of every reasonable man in the Province.—It is highly desirable that there should be a fusion of the interests of the monarchists of Canada, both French and English, and although Mr. Lafontaine might fear to be actuated by personal considerations, in the event of his accepting the Attorney Generalship of Lower Canada—such an imputation could never attach to him, while occupying a position which would enable him to give to his own countrymen, the NATIVE CANADIANS, a fair proportion of those public offices which are now lavished, in a manner the most insulting to the children of the soil, upon strangers from the Mother Country. This is an opportunity which may never again occur, and we trust that, should overtures of the kind be made to Mr. Lafontaine—if indeed they have not been made already—that gentleman will weigh well the great advantages to his countrymen which must result from his acceptance of the office in question.

THE WELLAND CANAL.

It is well known that damage of a serious nature some time since occurred on the Welland Canal, near St. Catharines; serious, not only from the very great expense—upwards of £1,000—which it will entail upon the public in making the repairs—but also from the inconvenience to which the trade of the country has been subjected, by the total suspension of all navigation between Lakes Erie and Ontario, and the detention in the canal of upwards of forty vessels laden with provisions of various kinds.

While giving to the present Chief Commissioner of Public Works all the merit that is due to him for the promptness and energy with which he met so serious a difficulty, in immediately assuming the responsibility of ordering the injury to be repaired forthwith, we deem it a duty to enter upon the immediate cause of an accident which has occasioned so much inconvenience and pecuniary loss to the public at large.

Knowing, as we do, the locality, and being in some degree acquainted with the opinions of parties long resident in the neighborhood in regard to the effect of freshets, we confess it was with no great surprise that we heard of the disaster which had occurred on this Welland Canal. With a cotemporary journal who has written some observations on the subject, we perfectly coincide in opinion that great blame attached to Mr. Killaly's late factotum—Mr. Power, who had again and again been warned of the utter incapacity of the waste weir to discharge any increase of water, caused by the freshets in the twelve-mile creek, or by the possible breaking of the mill-dams, to which causes, we believe the accident is wholly to be attributed. If then the conduct of the late Engineer of the Board of Works at St. Catharines is reprehensible, what is to be thought of that of the late honorable Chairman, who originally planned the work,—who has personally inspected it—who had full knowledge of the size of the waste weir, and who, therefore, should have been competent to judge whether or not it was sufficiently capacious to carry off the surplus water,—the sole purpose for which it was constructed.

But what can be expected of Mr. Killaly as an Engineer (to which character it seems to be a great object of his ambition to aspire), when we recollect that it was upon his estimate the original grant was made in 1841. According to the calculation then, the cost of completion of the Welland Canal amounted to £450,000; but so far from this proving sufficient, not less than £780,000 (nearly double the amount) have been appropriated by the Legislature for that which was, according to the estimate of an engineer professing a knowledge of these matters, only to have amounted to the sum first named. And yet, notwithstanding all this profuse expenditure—including the cost of waste weir, which are literally waste indeed—we understand that not less than £130,000 more will be necessary to complete this "gigantic Killaly's folly."

We have heard it urged that the reason for the expenditure on the public works, being so far above the amounts estimated for in 1841, was that sufficient time had not been allowed to produce a correct estimate. We have been at some trouble to inform ourselves on this subject, and what is the result of our inquiry? Simply this—that the work on which the greatest expenditure has taken place over the estimate, is the Welland Canal. We moreover find that Mr. Killaly could not have been in ignorance with respect to this work, if indeed he is the same gentleman whose signature is attached to a Report which is to be found at page 339 of the Appendix to the Journals of the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, for 1837-38, headed, "Report on the proposed deviations and improvements of the Welland Canal, by Messrs. Baird and Killaly, Civil Engineers."

We should like very much to know if, after all this, the "able" Engineer of whom we have heard so much, is still in the employment of the Government, or whether the present or any future Ministry will have the confidence to go down to Parliament, and ask for any new appropriations, based on the estimates of Mr. Killaly, who has nearly beggared the country by his profusion and his professional ignorance. And we should also like to know whether, while he is engaged in the interests of a private Company, while surveying the neighborhood of the Sault St. Mary for the Government, he is paid by that Government? No man can faithfully or efficiently serve two masters.

The breach in the Canal is by this time wholly repaired. Whether vessels can pass is another question. The present Chief Commissioner has done his duty, but the ice must have formed in the Canal long before this.

MARRIAGE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

As we stated some time ago would be the case, the new Governor-General of Canada has espoused the beautiful daughter of the late Earl of Durham, Lady Mary Lambton; and as we then said, we now repeat, that it will be a source of deep satisfaction to us to see the Countess Elgin witnessing the triumph of those enlarged principles of government which in a great degree cost her noble father his life, yet which we cannot for a moment doubt her distinguished husband has been duly instructed by the Home Government to attempt to carry through.

As a young and lovely bride, and as the daughter of one whose name is identified with the political existence of the country, we fully expect that the arrival of the Countess Elgin in Canada will be hailed with a warmth of enthusiasm and manifestation of a respect and attachment, which do not usually fall to the lot of the wives of Governor-Generals of Canada.

It is stated that His Excellency and his young Countess were to leave England in December, but the positive date is not specified. The *Herald* speaks of the packet of the 19th of this month, but we are not aware that any steamer will leave later in

December than the 4th. They will we think be here sooner than is generally imagined.

We are enabled to state with certainty that neither the Government itself, nor the Military Secretary and Principal Aide-de-Camp, Col. Bruce, have received any notification whatever of the intended departure of His Excellency from England.

The following is the account of the solemnization of the nuptial ceremony:—

"On Saturday, November 7, the marriage of George Charles Constantine, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, the newly-appointed Governor-General of Canada, with the Lady Mary Louisa Lambton, eldest daughter of the late, and sister of the present Earl of Durham, was solemnized at St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, in the presence of a select circle of the aristocracy. The bride arrived at the church a few minutes before twelve o'clock, in company with her uncle, the Earl Grey, by whom she was conducted to the vestry, where a large party had previously assembled, including the Duchess of Hamilton, the Countess Grey, the Earl of Durham, Lord G. Lennox, his Excellency Baron Brunow, Lady Elizabeth Bulteel and the Misses Bulteel, Lady Caroline Barrington, the Right Hon. Charles and Lady Mary Wood, Lady Emily Cavendish, Hon. Colonel and Mrs. Grey, Hon. Mrs. W. Lambton, Hon. and Rev. F. Grey, Hon. F. Bruce, &c. The bride was attended at the altar by a train of eight bridesmaids, viz. the Lady Alice Lambton (her ladyship's sister), the Misses Lambton (two), the Misses Bulteel (three), Miss Mary Barrington, and Miss Cavendish. The Hon. and Rev. J. Grey (brother of Earl Grey, and uncle to the bride) performed the service, the Earl Grey officiating as the father of the bride. At the conclusion of the service, the parties retired to the Earl Grey's mansion in Belgrave Square, where an elegant *dejeuner* was served in celebration of the happy event. Early in the afternoon the bridal pair left town for Coldcote, the seat of Lady Emily Cavendish, in Hertfordshire. The Earl of Elgin is a widower, his first wife having died in Jamaica, during his lordship's government of that colony. A daughter is the only issue of that marriage."

THE DISPUTED MAYORALTY.

We are glad to find that this vexed question is settled to the satisfaction of all parties. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Mills for adopting a course by which alone he knew peace and harmony could be made to supersede heartburnings and discord in the Council. We were somewhat surprised when we heard of this renewal of a discussion which, we thought, had been set at rest by Mr. Ferrier's departure for England, and the more especially so, as the latter functionary had distinctly, since his return to Montreal, avowed his intention to retire altogether from public life.

THE COLLECTOR AT ST. JOHNS.

We are in possession of some information in regard to the highly improper conduct of this official towards a junior branch of the Department, which reflects the utmost disgrace, not only upon the Collector himself, but upon the Government who have dared to notice the complaint of the injured party in a manner the most insulting. So far from affording him that redress which he sought at their hands, and which it was their duty, as servants of the public, to have accorded to him, they have removed the gentleman in question from his post, and at considerable expense, to one at a great distance, and without any increase of salary whatever.—We shall recur to this subject in a future number.

AUSTRALIAN COPPER MINES.

We fear that a serious blow will be given to the mining interests of this country by the recent discovery, which has been made in Australia, of a mountain of copper. It can scarcely be expected that people will dig into "the bowels of the harmless earth," when they can find what they require on its surface. We believe, however, it is the opinion of geologists that copper is more difficult and expensive to work, in proportion to its purity.

"AUSTRALIAN COPPER ORE.—A vessel, arrived in London, from Port Adelaide and the Cape of Good Hope respectively, has brought, in addition to a very extensive cargo, the large quantity of 600 tons weight of copper ore from the Australian port last mentioned, the production of that place. It is stated that there is a conical hill of copper near Mount Ardon, in South Australia, which is reported to be literally a mass of copper that it would take ages to remove."

The following notice of the proceedings of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad Company,—taken from the *Expositor*,—appears in a recent number of the *London Railway Record*:—

ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAILWAY.—Notices dated Montreal, August 25, have been issued by the Directors of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic, stating that they have unanimously resolved upon the immediate commencement of the line, whereby the subscriptions for shares of stock conditional upon that resolve (received subsequent to the 30th ult.) having become absolute, the new stockholders are requested to pay the first instalment of £4 16s. currency per share, to the treasurer. Proposals were to be received from contractors until the 24th of September for the grading, masonry, and bridging of a division of the road, extending from the St. Lawrence to the village of St. Hyacinthe, a distance of 30 miles. Thirty Montreal scripholders have also given notice, that application will be made by them, at the next meeting of the legislature, to obtain a charter for the purpose of constructing a bridge across the St. Lawrence; say from the south side of the said river to a point on St. Paul's Island, and from that island to the north bank, with right of way across the island, and from the north bank of the river to a convenient terminus on the canal.

RAILWAYS IN BELGIUM.

The following are the receipts on the State lines of Belgium, for the first nine months of 1845 and 1846:—

	1845.	1846.
	Francs.	Francs.
January.....	735,870	780,243
February.....	687,262	785,753
March.....	956,005	926,107
April.....	987,108	1,014,335
May.....	1,037,599	1,098,717
June.....	1,061,119	1,226,440
July.....	1,225,646	1,354,108
August.....	1,365,393	1,499,363
September.....	1,379,401	1,547,683

This in the teeth of bad management, inattention to the wants of passengers and commerce, and under a frightfully bad system of working. Last year the produce, after paying all expenses, yielded 4½ per cent.; this year it will probably be 5½ per cent., and as much again might be made of it by active Companies. The railways are thus alluded to by the King, in his speech, on the occasion of opening the Chambers, on Tuesday last:—

"The traffic on the national railway during the year 1846, has been again remarkably increased. The completion of the double lines already commenced, and of new railways, the works of which have been begun on various points, will add to the existing prosperity. The adoption of a body of laws for the management of the above grand national enterprise is now practicable. You will have to discuss various propositions for fixing a tariff of prices, and determining the general management of the railways."—*London Railway Record*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

SIR,—In the last number of your valuable journal, some notice is taken of the St. Lawrence and Portland Rail-Road. It is true that Messrs. Black, Wood & Co. are the successful applicants for the grading of the road to St. Hyacinthe; and from the energy and ability with which that firm have conducted their contracts with the Board of Works, I have no doubt but that the grading of the rail-road will proceed rapidly.—I understand also, that the grading of the road from St. Hyacinthe to Sherbrooke will be given out immediately,—affording pretty strong evidence that this important undertaking is not to be given up.

While, however, the Directors are proceeding in good faith, and relying on the instalments upon the shares being regularly paid, it will no doubt be a matter of surprise to you that upwards of £6,000 of the first instalment is yet unpaid, on stock subscribed for by the citizens of Montreal; and many of those defaulters are our most wealthy men and largest landed proprietors. So that the work may yet be stopped, by the very men who encouraged its commencement,—whose future wealth depends on its construction; but whose deplorable want of public spirit prevents the fulfilment of their engagements.

4th December, 1846. IMPROVEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

SIR,—You profess to reform public abuses.—Why, then, don't you lash the Corporation, for digging holes, deep enough to engulf elephants, at the ends of the board paths in De Bleury St. †

Why don't you lacerate them for permitting the narrowest parts of the greatest thoroughfares to be blocked up with bricks, and stones, and timber?

Why don't you expose those persons who permit their lazy servants to chop wood at night, with candles without lanterns, to the imminent danger of consuming their own and their neighbours' houses by fire?

Why don't you shame the merchants, traders, advocates, notaries, clergy, and physicians—I don't mention the Administration, for nothing could shame them into anything good—into paying some mark of respect and gratitude to the most civil, obliging, zealous, industrious, and universally respected public officer in Canada,—Mr. COOPER, of the Post Office?

Until you effect these things, I see no good in you. Yours faithfully, SENEZ.

Note.—Mr. Ferrier is Mayor.—E. W. E.

The following letter we insert from "OBSERVER," who seems anxious to disclaim any desire to animadvert on the parties supposed to have been implicated by his friend:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

SIR,—In my letter to you, I made use of the word "Church;"—no particular Church was named. I also stated that my friend had observed unbecoming conduct, which took place in front of him. How comes it, then, may I ask, that "One of the Choir of Christ Church" should take upon himself to allude to my remarks? Who accused him or his Church? From his being in such a hurry to do battle, one would be apt to think "the cap fits." Surely there are choirs with curtains to them, in the city, besides Christ Church.—I should be sorry indeed that listlessness on the part of any one, should be the cause of creating a change in the choir.

I am, sir, your obedt. servant,
9th Dec. 1846.

OBSERVER.

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Rail-Road.

NOTICE TO TIMBER CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be received at the Office of the ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY, till the 31st day of JANUARY next, for the following description of TIMBER, for the superstructure of the Road from the St. Lawrence River to a point in the Township of Acton, a distance of about 45 miles; to be delivered before the 1st August, 1847, on the line of the Road, at such points as the Engineer shall designate, namely:—

CONSTRUCTIONAL BILLS. Sawed, 8 by 12 inches square, in lengths of 18, 27, and 36 feet, to consist of best quality merchantable Pine or Tamarac Timber. Also, Oak or Tamarac Plank for Cross Ties 2 1/2 inches thick, 6 inches wide, and 8 feet long. The whole to be good sound merchantable Timber, and Plank free from black knots, shakes, and wanes, and in no case to be Sapling Timber.

The Ties are to be delivered at Points not exceeding one-fourth of a mile apart, on the following Division of the Road, viz.:

- FIRST DIVISION, extending from the St. Lawrence River to the Richelieu, at Balm.
- SECOND DIVISION, extending from the Richelieu River to the Village of St. Hyacinthe
- THIRD DIVISION, from St. Hyacinthe to the Point above mentioned in the Township of Acton.

Persons Proposing will state—1st, The amount and kind of Timber they will furnish, 2nd, Upon which of the above Divisions they will deliver it; 3rd, The price per running foot of Sills of each kind of Timber; 4th, The price of each Cross Tie of Oak or Tamarac.

Persons offering to contract for Timber or Ties who are unknown to the Engineer or to the Director, will be required to accompany their proposals with references as to character and ability; and in all cases where any proposal shall be accepted and a Contract entered into, the Contractor will be required to give the names of responsible persons as sureties for the faithful performance of the Contract according to the terms agreed on.

For further information, apply at the Company's Office, No. 18, Little St. James Street.

THOMAS STEERS, Secretary.

COMPANY'S OFFICE, 4th December, 1846.

ON SALE:—

- 1,799 pieces 2 inch Plank,
- 600 do Ash Boards,
- 565 do 1 inch Boards,
- 924 do 2 inch Battens,
- 262 do Do tongued and grooved,
- 639 do Scantlin, assorted,
- 629 do Plank, tongued and grooved,
- 425 do Battens various,
- 244 do 3 inch Plank,
- 120 do Cherry Boards,
- 201 do Planks and Lumber, various,
- 102 do Cherry Plank,
- 22 do Oak Plank,
- 143 do Black Walnut Boards,
- 165 do 1 1/2 inch Deals, clean,
- 489 do 1 inch Deals clean,
- 3,195 do 1 1/2 inch Plank,
- 540 do 1 1/2 and 2 inch Plank,
- 22 do Oak Boards,
- 120 do Oak.

Door and Window Frames, Shuttles, Sashes, &c. &c.

One Share "People's Line Steam Company." A LEASE of the Work Shops and Yards adjoining Henry Street; also the Yard in Coté Street, to 1st May, 1847. The Rent for the whole, or each separate, will be moderate.

The Shops, Dwelling Houses, and Timber Yards, will be sold on or about the 25th April, 1847.

For particulars, apply to

JOHN G. DINNING, Assignee, Estate JOHN KELLY & Co

December 3.

University of McGill College, MONTREAL.

THE CAPUT of the COLLEGE having this day received through the Principal an Official Communication of the confirmation by Her Majesty of the STATUTES of the COLLEGE, avails itself of the earliest opportunity of announcing the COURSE of LECTURES to be delivered in the College during the current Term:—

On Classical Literature—By the Rev. W. T. LEACH, A. M., Professor.

On Mathematics and Natural Philosophy—By EDMUND A. MURKEDITH, L. L. B., (F.C.D.) Principal of the College.

On History—By the Rev. JOSEPH ABBOTT, A.M.

On French Literature and the French Language—By LEON D. MONTIÈRE, Esquire.

All the above Courses will be commenced on TUESDAY next, the 22nd instant; but Students matriculating on or before the 20th instant, will be able to keep the Term.

Fees, £3 Gs. 8. per Term, or £10 a-year. Board, including Fuel and Candle, £3 Gs. a-month.

J. ABBOTT, A.M., Secretary.

Sept. 21, 1846.

WANTED,—for the Expositor Office,—TWO CARRIER BOYS, who have been PECU in the habit of taking round papers.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made by the COMPANY of PROPRIETORS of the CHAMPLAIN and ST. LAWRENCE RAILROAD, at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, for an Act to amend and extend certain provisions of the Act 2 Wm. 4th, chapter 53, entitled, "An Act for making a Railroad from Lake Champlain to the River St. Lawrence" and particularly the provisions of the 47th Section of the said Act, so as to authorize the said Company to extend and construct a Branch of the Champlain and the St. Lawrence Railroad from some point on the present line of the same West of the River commonly called La Petite Riviere de Montreal, in as direct a line as may be found practicable to any point upon the River Saint Lawrence at which a Bridge shall be constructed under the authority of any Act to be passed by the Legislature over the said River to communicate with the City of Montreal, and also to empower the said Company to carry their said Branch Railroad over such Bridge and thence to the City of Montreal, upon such terms and conditions as shall be fixed by Legislative enactment.

JOHN E. MILLS, Chairman.
WM. B. LINDSAY, Commissioner.

RAIL-ROAD OFFICE, Montreal, November 2, 1846.

DEBTORS TO THE ESTATE OF WM. FARQUHAR.

TAKE NOTICE.

A SECOND Dividend will shortly be declared on this ESTATE; from the Debts due, the Dividend is to be paid. All unpaid on 16th December next will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for Collection.

JOHN G. DINNING, Assignee. Montreal, 19th Novr. 1846.

ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAIL-ROAD.

NOTICE.

THE STOCKHOLDERS of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, having, at their Special General Meeting, held on the 2nd instant, unanimously resolved upon the immediate commencement of the Rail-Road, whereby the Subscriptions for Shares of Stock conditional upon that resolve (received subsequent to the 30th ultimo) have become absolute, the New Stockholders are requested to PAY the FIRST INSTALMENT of £4 16s. Currency per Share, to the Treasurer, at the Company's Office, 18, Little St. James Street.

By order of the Board, THOMAS STEERS, Secretary. Office of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, Montreal, 25th August, 1846.

NOTICE.

WE the Undersigned hereby give notice, that application will be made by us at the next meeting of the Legislature to obtain a CHARTER for the purpose of CONSTRUCTING A BRIDGE ACROSS THE ST. LAWRENCE; say from the South side of said River to a point on St. Paul's Island (Isle St. Paul), and from said Island to the North bank with right of way across the said Island, and from the North bank of the River to a convenient terminus on the Canal.

- H. STEPHENS,
- HUGH ALLAN,
- JARON C. PIERCE,
- D. DAVIDSON,
- WILLIAM DOW,
- JOHN LEEMING,
- WM. LUNN,
- J. B. SMITH,
- J. FROTHINGHAM,
- JNO. YOUNG,
- JOHN E. MILLS,
- L. H. HOLTON,
- D. L. MACDOUGALL,
- BENJ. LYMAN,
- R. CORSE,
- DAVID TORRANCE,
- ANDREW SHAW,
- JAMES GILMORE,
- WM. EDMONSTONE,
- MOSES HAYS,
- JOSEPH MASSON,
- ROBERT MACKAY,
- O. BERTHELET,
- H. JUDAH,
- A. LA ROCQUE,
- B. HART,
- JOSEPH HOURRET,
- A. M. DEULISLE,
- W. ERMATINGER,
- W. C. MERKIDIL,
- JOHN J. HAY,
- GEO. ELDER, Junr.

Montreal, September 14, 1846.



NOTICE.

To the Claimants for Rebellion Losses in Lower Canada, whose names are included in the Schedule published in the Canada Gazette, dated 10th October, 1846.

RECEIVER GENERAL'S OFFICE, Montreal, 9th October, 1846.

THE RECEIVER GENERAL is authorized to issue DEBENTURES; redeemable in Twenty Years, for the liquidation of these Losses, in sums not less than Twenty five Pounds, Currency, bearing interest at Six per Cent per Annum, as provided by the Act 9 Victoria, Cap. 63, payable Yearly, on the 1st January.

It is recommended to those individuals whose claims are under the sum above specified, that they should unite so as to make up the Minimum Amount of Debentures allowed to be issued.

The English and French papers in Montreal will insert the above f. two weeks.

DONEGANA'S HOTEL.

THE Proprietor of this UNRIVALLED ESTABLISHMENT, in returning thanks to the Public for the liberal share of patronage bestowed upon his uncle (Mr. Rasco) and himself, during the twelve years they conducted the Establishment so well known as "RASCO'S HOTEL," begs to inform them that he has now removed into that

SPLENDID BUILDING

in Notre Dame Street, formerly the Property of WILLIAM BINHAM, Esq., and the Vice-Royal Residence of Lords DURHAM and SYDENHAM, which has been greatly enlarged and fitted with

EVERY CONVENIENCE & ORNAMENT

sublimed Comfort and Luxury can best. THE SITUATION is central, and within an easy distance of the Champ-de-Mars, the Cathedrals, Bishop's Church, the Banks, the Government Offices, the Court House, and other Public Buildings. The openness of the site, and the elevation upon which the Hotel stands, ensures it abundance of light and air, while it commands upon every side an Excellent View, including the River, the Island of St. Helen, and the opposite shore, the Mountain, and the adjacent Picturesque Country.

The Establishment has been furnished throughout with NEW AND COSTLY FURNITURE, and fitted in every way worthy of what it is—

THE FIRST HOTEL IN BRITISH AMERICA!!

Among the conveniences will be found SIX BATHING ROOMS and a BILLIARD ROOM.

THE TABLE

will be supplied with EVERY DELICACY of the Season; and while the Proprietor will spare no expense to give satisfaction to all who may honor him with their patronage, the large number which the extent of the Establishment enables him to accommodate, will admit of making his CHARGES VERY REASONABLE.

CARRIAGES will be always in attendance, to convey parties to and from the Steamboat Wharves, and the Upper Canada and other Stage Offices. And the Proprietor will spare no exertion to make his New Establishment worthy of the liberal patronage he receives as Lessee of Rasco's.

J. M. DONEGANA.

JOHN M'CLOSKEY,

SILK AND WOOLLEN DYER, AND CLOTHES CLEANER,

(From Belfast)

No. 76, St. Mary Street, Quebec Suburbs.

GENTLEMEN'S Clothes Cleaned in the best style, and the Cloth made to look as well as when new. All kinds of Stains, such as Tar, Paint, Oil, Grease, Iron Mould, Wine Stains, &c. carefully abstracted. N.B.—Persons not finding it convenient to call at his place, by sending a few lines will be punctually attended to.

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for SALE:—

Bright Muscovado Sugar in Hhds.

White Crushed Sugar in Tierces

Pipes Port Wine

Punchoons Cuba Honey (Clear)

Bales Cuba Tobacco for Cigars

Roasted Coffee in Barrels

Green do in Bags

Scal

Cool

Whale and } Oils

Dog

Barrels No. 1 Arichat Herrings

Digby Herrings in Boxes

10 M Superior Cuba Cigars

Bees' Wax, Fustic

Mahogany, Cedar

Pimento in Barrels

Jamaica Preserved Fruits, &c. &c.

W. H. LEAYCRAFT & CO.

Sept. 3. No. 9, St. Nicholas Street.

NEW RAIL-ROAD JOURNAL.

The Weekly Expositor, OR, REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES; And Railway and Mining Intelligencer.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS having for their object redress of grievances, and well-founded complaints against any Public Department whatsoever, as well as those treating of Railway and Mining Speculations, are requested to be dropped in the Post Office, addressed to the Editor of the 'WEEKLY EXPOSITOR'; and all Advertisements (which are especially solicited from those who are interested in the prosperity of an Independent Paper) may be left at the Office, corner of St. Francois Xavier and Great St. James Streets.

The names of communicators of flagrant abuses or injustice will not, unless they desire it, be made known.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—Two Dollars per Annum in Montreal, and Two Dollars and a Half in the Country payable in advance.

Montreal, August 11, 1846.

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETOR, BY

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Chapin's Buildings, 142, Notre Dame Street.

PUBLISHED BY J. TENISON,

At the Office of the Proprietor,

No. 1, SAINT FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET.

PECU in the habit of taking round papers.

25 JUN 1875

BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE DU QUÉBEC